

BOROUGH OF



DORCHESTER

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1964

B O R O U G H O F D O R C H E S T E R

Health Department
Telephone Number Dorchester 934
Personal Telephone Number
Dorchester 1000
Ext. 470

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
21 NORTH SQUARE,
DORCHESTER,
DORSET.

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Dorchester.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the
public health in the Borough during the year 1964.

As a new member of staff I wish to acknowledge the great help given
to me by the Council and their officials in understanding the administrative
procedures adopted in the Borough, and the encouragement I have received to
visit and learn about the various services for which the Council are
responsible.

Assistance has also been readily given by Health Visitors, Social
Workers and other members of voluntary organisations in dealing with the
personal health problems in town.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

Kenneth J. Adams

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	I.P. LAWRENCE, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (retired 31st May, 1964)
	K.J. ADAMS, M.R.C.S., I.R.C.P., D.P.H. (commenced 1st June, 1964)
Chief Public Health Inspector	C.F. ALLARD, D.P.A., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector	D.A. DOLPHIN, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (resigned 31st May, 1964)
	T.K. HERD, M.A.P.H.I. (commenced 1st September, 1964)
Meat Inspector	S.G. HALL
General Assistant	B.A. GALE (resigned 13th October, 1964)
Clerical Assistant to Inspectors Temporary part-time.	Mrs. D.A. JORDAN (resigned 11th December, 1964)
Clerk Shorthand/Typist	Mrs. P.A. PLAYSTED (commenced 21st December, 1964)
Clerical Assistant to Medical Officer	Miss P.J. GREENING (resigned 5th September, 1964)
	Miss M. HODGSON (commenced 1st September, 1964)
Rodent Operative (Part-time)	N. CHURCHILL (commenced 6th January, 1964 and resigned 10th February, 1964)
	H.V. CUIVER (commenced 8th June, 1964)

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,675
Resident Population ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,200
Number of Dwellings ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,941
Rateable Value...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£639,372
Sum represented by Penny Rate .	...	...	...	...	...	...	£2,570

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth and Death Rates compared with other areas (Births and Deaths per 1,000 population)

	<u>Birth Rate</u>				<u>Death Rate</u>
Dorchester Borough	...	...	...	16.1 (16.8)	10.2 (11.2)
England and Wales	...	...	...	18.4 (18.2)	11.3 (12.2)
Dorset	...	...	...	15.9 (18.7)	12.2 (11.9)
Dorchester Rural District	...	...	...	17.1 (22.8)	10.9 (11.7)

The figures in brackets are those for 1963.

In calculating Birth and Death rates, area comparability factors are issued by the Registrar General to "correct" irregularities in the age and sex structure of the population, and also to take into account any high mortality due to the presence of residential institutions.

Births and Infantile Deaths

	<u>Legitimate</u>		<u>Illegitimate</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Live Births	102	86	4	6	198
Still Births	1	-	-	-	1
Deaths under 1 year .	1	1	-	-	2
Deaths under 4 weeks.	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths under 1 week..	-	-	-	-	-

Infantile Mortality

The infantile mortality rate is the number of deaths among infants of under one year of age per 1,000 registered live births. There were two deaths among infants under one year of age to 198 births in the area. This is too small a figure to calculate for comparative purposes an accurate infantile mortality rate but the figures compare well with the national rate of 20.0 deaths among infants under one year of age per thousand live births and the Dorset rate of 16.3.

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COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year:-

Acute pneumonia	4
Measles.....	65
Puerperal pyrexia.....	1
Tuberculosis.....	3
Whooping cough.....	8

No cases of Diphtheria or Poliomyelitis occurred in the Borough.

In common with all other health departments the Public Health Inspectors were urgently involved with tracing cans from the particular consignment of corned beef thought to be responsible for the Aberdeen outbreak of Typhoid. Indeed a number were found and detained.

I was also alerted by the Port of London Medical Officer of Health that a party of Dorset school children on a cruise had paid an unscheduled stop at Tangiers, the point being that such an area is one of the few remaining places where smallpox is still occurring. This in itself was a routine matter, but I was surprised to find after investigation of the several children living in the Dorchester County districts, that one attending a school in town had received a primary vaccination before embarking, which had failed to "take". As the school party had taken the opportunity to explore the Kasbah at Tangiers, I felt it would be prudent to place this child on home and garden quarantine. The quarantine period passed uneventfully, but the story could have had a very different ending.

Work with routine sewer swabbing continues at particular inspection covers in town. As would be expected, disease producing organisms are isolated from time to time. Swabs from which typhoid organisms were grown were traced back through the sewer network until the human carrier was found. He was an old person already in failing health. Precautions were maintained until he died early in 1965.

In all work dealing with communicable disease it is a great help to know that the services of the Public Health Laboratory in town are available. Although snap decisions on clinical grounds must still be taken, it is a relief to have the co-operation of Dr. G.H. Tee and Dr. T.V. Cooper who can usually produce concrete evidence upon whether a clinical decision was justified, or themselves produce evidence initiating investigation. The amount of routine work undertaken for us at the Laboratory is shown by the following number of samples investigated:-

Faeces.....	9
Milk.....	351
Ice Cream.....	27
Water.....	307
Sewerage.....	66
Slaughterhouse Specimens.....	126

CAUSES OF DEATH

			<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
INFECTIOUS DISEASE:	Syphilis		1	-
	Tuberculosis		-	-
	Other..		-	2
RESPIRATORY DISEASE:	Pneumonia		5	6
	Bronchitis.. ...		4	-
	Other		-	1
HEART AND CIRCULATION:	Coronary Disease ..		16	12
	Cerebral haemorrhage		18	18
	Hypertension		1	4
	Other..		8	13
CANCER:	Stomach		1	3
	Breast		-	5
	Lung and Bronchus..		7	-
	Uterus		-	1
	Leukaemia... ..		1	-
	Other..		5	10
DIABETES:			1	2
GASTRIC OR DUODENAL ULCER:			2	1
NEPHRITIS AND NEPHROSIS:			1	1
HYPERPLASIA OF PROSTATE:			3	-
CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS:			1	1
MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS:			2	-
ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS:			2	-
SUICIDE:			-	-
OTHER DEFINED AND ILL-DEFINED CAUSES: ...			6	7
Total			85	87

The distribution of the causes of death are similar to those experienced Nationally. Few are now killed by infectious disease. Diseases of the heart and circulation cause the greatest number of deaths and to a certain extent figure highly because of the ageing or wearing-out of a system which must be constantly in operation to permit life. One section of this group of diseases, Coronary Thrombosis, is however more unusual in that it is not necessarily associated with the ageing process. It seems to be a disease of western civilisation and indeed early pathological changes in the Coronary Arteries were seen post mortem in young United States servicemen killed in battle in Korea.

Lack of exercise, mental over activity and worry and the consumption of a diet rich in animal fats are variously thought to contribute to the condition so that in dietary at least one may suppose that environmental factors may commence in the cradle. Until more is known about the disease, regular moderate exercise, occasional changes of occupation of the mind, and a cuisine taking advantage of vegetable oils where possible can do nothing but good. Leave the car in the garage and walk to work when possible.

The higher incidence of lung cancer deaths in males is also reflected in the Dorchester figures.

WATER SUPPLIES

The annual rainfall in Dorchester in 1964 was 29.81 inches. This was lower than usual but as the town is surrounded at a radius of five or six miles by land rising to 800 feet or more, there is a tremendous water shed supplying us.

Water for the town is obtained from a well 110 feet deep at water level at the Water Works, Bridport Road. It is pumped electrically to three reservoirs, a high level containing 90,000 gallons and two low level reservoirs containing 1,000,000 gallons and 230,000 gallons. This storage is sufficient for slightly more than one day's supply and there is a stand-by generator to work the pumps in the event of an electricity failure in the National Grid. Water from these reservoirs gravitates to the town through a high and low level system.

Total number of gallons pumped per year from Water Works Well

1961 ..	..	..	..	254,885,000
1962 ..	..	..	..	272,441,000
1963 ..	..	..	..	309,047,000
1964 ..	..	..	..	316,113,000
	Plus ..	..		2,160,000
				(Eagle Lodge)

As consumption steadily increased it was thought necessary to augment the supply and in 1962 a bore 300 feet deep was sunk at Eagle Lodge. This bore commenced pumping into the mains network from the lower end of town in September 1964, and now pumps continuously. Both systems are chlorinated with Chlorine gas.

Chemical samples from both sources were submitted for analysis in October and the results are set out overleaf. Three hundred and seven bacteriological samples were submitted from various parts of the system of which eight were unsatisfactory in minor degree. Because recorded pollution was so minor, the periphery have been resampled before practical action is taken and in each case a second sample has proved satisfactory. If at any time a higher degree of pollution was noted the mains would immediately be flushed out.

One sample appeared to be infested with a minute live organism although satisfactorily chlorinated. At the time I was unable to get this organism identified and it has since not recurred.

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES OF WATER
CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

	<u>Waterworks</u>	<u>Eagle Lodge</u>
Appearance - clear	Taste and odour - Normal	
Colour - colourless	pH Value - 7.2	7.3
Free chlorine - not detected		
Total Solid Residue (dried at 180°C)	360	420
Suspended Matter (dried at 105°C)	Nil	Nil
Chlorine as chloride	18	20
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (free ammonia expressed as N)	0.041 less than	0.005
Albuminoid Nitrogen (expressed as N)	0.016 less than	0.005
Nitrite Nitrogen (expressed as N)	less than 0.005	0.005
Nitrate Nitrogen (expressed as N)	3.0	3.4
Total Alkalinity (as Calcium Carbonate)	190	120
Hardness (Total)	280	300
Hardness (Temporary)	190	120
Hardness (Permanent)	90	180
Metals - Poisonous (as elements)	absent	absent
Oxygen absorption from Permanganate solution in 4 hours at 27° C.	0.56	0.7

Remarks: From a chemical aspect, these waters are safe and suitable for drinking and domestic use in a public supply.

Date: 31st October, 1964.

PUBLIC ANALYST

SWIMMING POOLS

There are no public swimming pools in the Borough but children's pools at Damers Road Primary School, Dorchester Grammar School for Girls and at Dorchester Modern School, functioned during the year. A fourth pool at St. Osmonds Primary School was almost completed.

Section 233 of the Public Health Act, 1936, is only applicable to swimming pools open to the public. The Department thus leaves the chlorination and bacteriological checking of these school swimming pools to the County Public Health Inspectorate who call weekly when the pools are in use.

SEWERAGE

Sewage is treated at Louds Mill Sewage Works which was modernised in 1962. The process is one of settlement and sludge digestion followed by filtration. The effluent discharges into the River Frome. The sludge is dried in beds being finally disposed of on to agricultural land.

A good effluent should demand less than 20 parts per million of oxygen, the prime function of sewage treatment being to reduce oxygen demand so that fish and other water life can continue in streams.

A sample of effluent taken in June, 1964, gave an oxygen demand of 25 parts per million, which is reasonably satisfactory and suitable for discharge. Equipment has now been purchased to enable the sewage works attendant to estimate oxygen demand on site and these results will be available for me next year.

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In the sections dealing with Water and Sewerage it gives me pleasure to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. D.J.H. Strange, Borough Surveyor.

Telephone (Office):
Dorchester 934.

Public Health Inspectors' Office,
North Square,
DORCHESTER.

June, 1965.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Dorchester.

Annual Report for 1964.

I present for your consideration the following report on our work in 1964.

The administration of the Department was severely affected by the number of staff changes: the Medical Officer of Health retired; the Additional Public Health Inspector and the General Assistant obtained posts with other authorities; the part time Clerical Assistant resigned, and early in 1965 the Meat Inspector obtained a post abroad. Difficulties were also experienced in obtaining a suitable rodent operative. Thus in the period from June, 1964, to February, 1965, the whole of the staff, except the Chief Public Health Inspector, changed. There was the usual interval from two to three months before the inspectors were replaced, and without assistance from inspectors of neighbouring authorities the services, especially meat inspection, would not have been maintained. To them and to the members of the staff who left our employ I would express appreciation for the services given over the years.

The posts of General Assistant and part time Clerical Assistant were not filled. Instead the Council appointed a full-time Clerical Assistant. Thus we ended the year with a reduced staff and a not inconsiderable back-log of work.

Consideration was again given to the appointment of a pupil public health inspector, but after advertising and interviewing a number of boys it was decided not to make the appointment. Instead by early 1965 thoughts were moving towards the appointment of another additional public health inspector.

New legislation which came into force in 1964 and affected the administration of the Department included:-

The Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.
The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.
The Housing Act, 1964.
The Protection from Eviction Act, 1964.
The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

The Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964, and the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1964, come into operation in 1965. Further reference is made to a number of the Acts in the text of the report.

I am grateful for the support received from the members of the Council and for the help and advice of the chief officers and my other colleagues.

B. F. A. A. A.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

1. INSPECTIONS - 1964.

Under the Housing Acts:

Inspection of dwelling houses	44
Re-inspection of dwelling houses	105
Visits re overcrowding	6
Unclassified	12
	167

Under the Food and Drugs Acts:

Inspections and visits re unsound food	97
Inspection of food premises (including visits for sampling only)	117
Visits re notified or suspected cases of food poisoning	3
Visits to slaughterhouses	1,165
Visits to dairies	12
	1,394

Under Public Health Acts:

Inspection and/or testing of sewers/drains (including soil and ventilating pipes)	299
Inspection of closets and cesspools	4
Inspection of filthy or verminous premises	27
Inspection of public conveniences	30
Inspection for detection and abatement of statutory nuisances	113
Inspection and sampling of water supplies	87
Enquiries and visits re infectious diseases	808
Inspection of tents, vans and sheds	13
Unclassified	19
	1,400

Under the Factories Act:

Inspection of factories	4
Visits to outworkers' premises	-
	4

Under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act:

Under the Shops Acts:

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act:

(excluding visits by the rodent operative)	215
Other visits	1
	216

Under the Petroleum Acts:

Under the Pet Animals Act:

Miscellaneous:

3,226

The total of 3,226 inspections includes 261 visits made by the General Assistant.

2. COMPLAINTS - 1964.

Disrepair of houses	13
Overcrowding or other inadequate housing conditions	-
Unsound food or unsatisfactory conditions in food premises	19
Defective and/or choked drains, sewers, closets, cesspools, etc.	24
Verminous and/or filthy premises	33
Keeping of animals in insanitary conditions	-
Offensive accumulations or deposits	10
Other public health nuisances	22
Rats and mice	102
Unclassified	<u>4</u>
	<u>227</u>

3. NOTICES - 1964.

	<u>Informal Notices</u>		<u>Formal Notices</u>	
	Served	Complied with	Served	Complied with
Under Public Health Acts	16	12	1	1
Under Housing Acts	3	5	-	-
Under Food and Drugs Acts	11	9	-	-
Under Factories Acts	-	-	-	-
Under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	2	2	-	-
Under Petroleum Acts	3	2	-	-
Under Shops Acts	1	-	-	-
	<u>36</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

4. HOUSING.

In May, 1955, the Council approved a scheme of clearance and demolition of 228 properties. The houses had been provisionally scheduled as unfit and suitable for inclusion in Clearance Areas or to be dealt with individually by Demolition or Closing Order. Clearance Areas are dealt with by the Clearance and Redevelopment Committee; individual houses by the Health Committee and the rehousing of tenants by the Housing Committee.

At the end of the year the progress made in the scheme was as follows:-

Number of houses in scheme approved in May, 1955:

Occupied (198 tenancies)	201
Vacant	<u>27</u>
	<u>228</u>

Progress to the end of 1964:

Demolished:

Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders	98
Demolition Orders	22
Other Statutory or informal action	14

Closed:

Closing Orders or Undertakings not to re-let	14
Informal action	4

Occupied: 59

Vacant: 2

Reconditioned: 7

Excluded by the Council: 8
228

Summary of Progress - 1964.

Clearance Areas. No Clearance Areas were declared during the year.

Individual Houses. The following Demolition and Closing Orders were made:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Persons Displaced</u>
43 The Grove	Closing Order made 14.1.64.	5 - Rehoused 27.1.64.
47 The Grove	Closing Order made 14.1.64.	3 - Rehoused 24.2.64.
42 The Grove	Closing Order made 11.2.64.	Vacant before official action.
7 Friary Lane	Closing Order made 5.5.64. and house purchased by agreement.	Vacant before official action.
36 The Grove	Closing Order made 14.7.64.	2 - Rehoused 18.5.64.
13 Durngate Street	Closing Order made on part of house 14.7.64.	Not yet rehoused.
31 The Grove	Closing Order made 8.9.64.	Vacant before official action.
3 Holloway Road	Closing Order made 8.9.64.	1 - Rehoused by Mill Street Housing Society Ltd. 24.8.64.
26 Millers Close	Closing Order made 8.9.64.	3 - Rehoused 25.5.64.
4 Holloway Road	Demolition Order made 13.10.64.	1 - Rehoused by Dorchester Municipal Charities 21.12.64.
28 Millers Close	Closing Order made 10.11.64.	Vacant before official action.
34 The Grove	Closing Order made 8.12.64.	Vacant before official action.
7 Salisbury Street	Demolition Order made 8.12.64.	Vacant before official action.

Rehousing.

Seven families from unfit houses were rehoused by the Council.

Housing Repairs and Improvements.

Repairs to housing defects were completed at four houses.

Thirty-one applications for Standard Grants were received, thirty of which were approved and one refused. Twenty-five applications were from owner occupiers and six (including the one refused) in respect of tenanted houses. During the year forty-four houses were improved (sixteen owner occupied and twenty-eight tenanted houses) and a total of £4,018 paid out in Standard Grants, the average grant per house being just over £91.

The amenities provided were as follows:-

(a)	Fixed bath	25
(b)	Shower	Nil
(c)	Wash hand basin	43
(d)	Hot water supply (to any fittings)	43
(e)	W.C. within the dwelling	24
(f)	Food store	22

No applications were received for Discretionary Grants.

More than 800 houses or approximately one-fifth of the houses in the Borough are without all or some of the five "standard amenities". Under the Housing Act, 1964, the Council now has the power to compel the provision of the "standard amenities" in tenanted houses. The application of the Act and the possibility of securing the improvement of more houses by persuasion are to be considered.

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications for a certificate of disrepair were received during the year.

5. FOOD PREMISES.

The list of food premises, wholesalers and retailers, was revised and reclassified at the end of the year as follows:-

PART A - WHOLESALERS, MANUFACTURERS, PROCESSORS, ETC.

Slaughterhouses	2
Wholesale butchers	4
Meat transporters	4
Wholesalers	3
Manufacturers	2
Processors	4
	19

PART B - FOOD RETAILERS.

Butchers	11
Fishmongers - wet and dried fish	3
Fishmongers - fried fish	4
Milk distributors	
from premises <u>within</u> the Borough	4
from premises <u>outside</u> the Borough	2
Bread distributors	
from premises <u>within</u> the Borough	1
at premises <u>within</u> the Borough	
i.e. not operating a retail round	5
from premises <u>outside</u> the Borough	3
Grocers, provision merchants and general shops	40
Fruiterers and greengrocers	5
Sugar confectioners	16
	94

PART C - CATERING PREMISES.

Hotels	13
Restaurants and cafes	20
Works canteens	4
School canteens	10
Hospitals	3
Residential catering premises	6
Public houses without catering facilities (other than snacks)	18
Occasional catering premises	19
	93

PART D - OTHER PREMISES.

Off-licences	3
Licensed clubs	7
Guest houses	2
Food stalls (approximately)	22
House to house traders	<u>2</u>
	<u>36</u>

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and of inspections made (including visits for sampling) is as follows:-

	<u>Number registered</u>	<u>Number of inspections</u>
For the sale, or manufacture, or storage of ice-cream.	58	24
For the preparation or manu- facture of meat products or preserved foods.	6	2

The number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, is:-

Distributors with premises within the Borough	4
Distributors trading from outside the Borough	2
Retail shops selling bottled milk only	<u>25</u>
	<u>31</u>

Twelve inspections were made at these premises.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963, the work of licensing dealers in designated milks (pasteurised, sterilised and untreated) is the responsibility of the Dorset County Council, who are the Food and Drugs Authority. In 1964 sampling officers took three hundred and fifty-one samples of milk supplies in the Borough. All except ten passed the statutory tests.

Following the receipt of three complaints of dirty milk bottles, after considerable delay improvements were put in hand at one of the dairies operating in the Borough. The principal improvements, which were completed in 1965, consisted of relaying the dairy floor and installing a new bottle washing machine. Series of samples taken from the new bottle washing machine have all given very satisfactory results.

6. FOOD HYGIENE.

The total number of visits to food premises for food hygiene and sampling was one hundred and seventeen. Structural improvements were required to three premises. About twenty-two traders sell food from stalls in the streets and in Dorchester Market. Forty-four inspections of the stalls were made under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

At one store open biscuits and vegetables were being displayed and handled on the same counter. This matter was taken up with the manager who immediately arranged for the two types of food to be displayed on separate counters.

The Council objected to the renewal of Club Registration Certificates under the Licensing Act, 1961, in respect of two clubs on the grounds of insufficient hand washing facilities. At one club the necessary works were put in hand before the Court hearing and the Council therefore withdrew its objections. The Court renewed the Certificate of the second club for one year only and subsequently an agreement was reached between the club and the Council with regard to the provision of satisfactory hand washing facilities.

7. FOOD INSPECTION.

ICE-CREAM. Twenty-seven samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, the results of which were:-

	<u>Bulk</u> <u>Ice-cream</u>	<u>Pre-packed</u> <u>Ice-cream.</u>
Provisional Grade 1	11	12
Provisional Grade 2	-	2
Provisional Grade 3	2	-
Provisional Grade 4	-	-
	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>

Results of ice-cream samples are judged on the following standard.

Over a six-monthly period, 50 per cent. of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80 per cent. into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20 per cent. into Grade 3 and none into Grade 4.

Among the complaints and other matters dealt with were the following:

- (i) A can of creamed rice was alleged to be unsound. Bacteriological examination did not confirm this and a check of the stocks in the shop did not show any abnormality.
- (ii) A chocolate confectionery was found to be infested with a spider beetle. The stock of the same confectionery at the shop was found to be infested and several months old but no further infestation was found at the shop or at the Company's warehouse. The firm were given a warning.
- (iii) Discoloured meat was found to be due to staining from a hook and arrangements were made for the stock of hooks to be replaced.
- (iv) A leg of lamb was found to be arthritic. As the condition was not evident from the outside no further action was taken.
- (v) A complaint was made regarding an abnormal taste of canned ox tongue. Other than a higher than usual salt content no abnormality was detected by chemical and bacteriological examinations.
- (vi) A maggoty kidney led to the detection of two fly blown hind-quarters of meat in a shop refrigerator. The hindquarters came from a badly dressed carcase and the Company were given a strong warning.
- (vii) A mouldy pork pie was found to be several days old. The remainder of the stock was found to be sound and properly coded, and a warning was given.
- (viii) Stocks of butter were checked after a complaint of rancidity and affected butter was withdrawn from sale.
- (ix) An unsound portion of chicken sold from a public house was followed by a warning to the licensee.
- (x) A complaint of dirty orange juice bottles was not confirmed.
- (xi) A complaint of a mouldy can of pork luncheon meat was not confirmed.
- (xii) A mouldy pork pie was thought to be three weeks old and the grocer was given a strong warning.
- (xiii) Discolouration of canned chopped ham was found to be due to ink from a label. As the remainder of the meat had been eaten no further action was possible.
- (xiv) Discolouration of canned fruit was found in old stock and the shop stock checked.

I have referred in previous reports to the need in food shops for a proper system of shop coding of perishable goods to ensure that such stock is properly rotated. The attention of proprietors was again drawn to this problem but incidents occurred which showed that adequate systems were not in operation in all shops.

Following the outbreak of typhoid fever at Aberdeen a series of circulars was received from the Ministry of Health with regard to stocks of corned beef and ox tongue. All caterers, butchers, grocers and similar establishments were visited and stocks checked. Twenty-six 6 lb. cans of corned beef were withdrawn from sale because they were processed in Uruguay at a time when the cooling water was not being chlorinated.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

The Regulations came into force on 1st January, 1964, and prohibit the use of liquid egg in the manufacture of food products unless it has been pasteurised, then kept at a temperature of not more than 50°F. and used within twenty-four hours. From our enquiries bulk liquid egg is not used at premises in the Borough, and the Regulations do not apply to shell eggs broken out on the manufacturing premises.

Unsound food.

The quantities of food found to be unsound and voluntarily surrendered to the Department for disposal are shown in the following table. The food is surrendered at the office of the inspectors and disposed of by burying at the Council's refuse tip.

Canned or other pre-packed foods:

931 lbs.	Meat or Fish	(746 packs)
426 lbs.	Fruit	(102 packs)
476 lbs.	Vegetables	(652 packs)
47 lbs.	Milk	(85 packs)
185 lbs.	Other pre-packed foods	(193 packs)

Other foods:

261 lbs.	Meat and Meat Products
28 lbs.	Fish
494 lbs.	Biscuits
<u>TOTAL WEIGHT: 2,848 lbs.</u>	

On three occasions the mechanism of refrigerated display cabinets broke down and inspectors were called on to examine stocks of frozen foods. Once such foods are thawed they become potentially unfit and must be withdrawn from sale.

Two foods, a steak and kidney pie and cooked ham, were alleged to have caused food poisoning. Investigations did not confirm that the illnesses were food poisoning or that the foods were unsound in any way.

The carcasses of six rabbits exposed for sale in Dorchester Market were seized under Section 9 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and taken before a Justice of the Peace who issued a Condemnation Order. It was also necessary to warn a number of other sellers with regard to the unsatisfactory condition of rabbit carcasses offered for sale in the market.

8. MEAT INSPECTION.

Two premises within the Borough continued in use as licensed private slaughterhouses. Both slaughterhouses are operated by wholesale butchers supplying the London markets and towns over a wide area.

The Council employs a full time Meat Inspector and meat inspection is also carried out by the two Public Health Inspectors. Slaughtering takes place at one or both of the slaughterhouses on almost every day of the year.

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
Number of animals slaughtered	54,136	55,048
Number of animals inspected	54,086	54,997
Number of whole carcasses rejected	428	420
Approximate weight of meat and offals rejected (tons)		
(a) for tuberculosis	1	1
(b) for other conditions	44	46

The principal causes for the rejection of carcasses as unfit for human consumption, classified in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, are shown on page twenty-five.

Cysticercus Bovis.

Cysticercus bovis is the cystic form of human taeniasis (tape-worm in man) and cattle inspected were subjected to routine examination of the head, tongue and heart. Ten cases of *cysticercus bovis* were found, the location of the cysts being as shown below:-

Head (external and/or internal masseter muscles or pterygoid muscle)	7
Head (masseter muscles) and heart	1
Head (masseter muscles) and diaphragm	1
Head (masseter muscles) and carcass muscles	1
	10

The ten carcasses affected with localised *cysticercus bovis* were submitted to cold storage at premises within the Borough and kept at the prescribed temperature before release for consumption.

The incidence of *cysticercus bovis* in cattle examined was as follows:-

1964	0.21 per cent (10 cases)
1963	0.52 per cent (26 cases)

Carcases and Offals inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle ex. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,526	3,168	14,220	22,924	12,298
Number inspected	1,526	3,167	14,219	22,876	12,298
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	10	70	160	97	89
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	352	1,559	714	2,625	3,308
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	23.7	51.4	6.5	11.9	27.6
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	4	-	-	249
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.3	0.2	-	-	2.0
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	7	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	7	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF REJECTION - 1964.

	Cattle				
	ex.Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Actinobacillosis (generalised)	-	1	-	-	-
Anaemia (advanced)	-	-	-	3	-
Bruising (extensive and severe)	1	2	1	1	1
Decomposition (generalised)	-	-	1	1	-
Emaciation (pathological)	2	5	6	42	15
Fever	-	8	36	7	8
Immaturity	-	-	17	2	5
Jaundice	-	-	-	-	2
Mastitis (acute septic)	-	4	-	11	1
Metritis (acute septic)	1	9	-	4	1
Odour (abnormal)	-	1	-	-	-
Oedema (generalised)	1	4	9	5	1
Pericarditis (acute septic)	-	1	-	-	-
Peritonitis (acute, diffuse, septic)	1	2	7	2	3
Pleurisy (acute, diffuse, septic)	-	-	1	-	2
Pneumonia (acute septic)	-	-	8	2	2
Pyæmia (including joint-ill)	1	7	37	6	24
Septicaemia or toxæmia	3	16	27	5	9
Swine erysipelas (acute)	-	-	-	-	12
Tumours	-	6	-	1	1
Uraemia	-	-	-	1	1
Tuberculosis (generalised)	-	1	-	-	1
Other causes	-	4	10	4	1
Total 1964	10	71	160	97	90
Percentage	0.66	2.24	1.13	0.43	0.73
Total 1963	19	75	149	86	91
Percentage	1.07	2.35	0.89	0.45	0.64

Laboratory facilities.

The facilities of the Public Health Laboratory, which is under the direction of Dr. G.H. Tee, are available for the examination of specimens from carcasses. One hundred and twenty-six specimens from forty-nine carcasses were submitted in 1964.

I should like to record my thanks to Dr. Tee for his help, which is always readily given on meat inspection and other public health problems.

9. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

Sixteen slaughtermen employed at the local slaughterhouses were licensed to slaughter or stun cattle, sheep, pigs and goats with a mechanically operated instrument of the captive bolt pistol type or an electrically operated instrument (electrolethaler). No licences to slaughter horses within the Borough have been issued.

10. WATER SAMPLES.

Routine samples are taken from distribution points in addition to samples of the source and from the reservoirs taken by the Water Engineer. Seventy-seven samples of the mains supply taken by the public health inspectors were satisfactory. Three unsatisfactory samples indicated a local pollution only, repeat samples being satisfactory. Of the samples taken by the Water Engineer all except five were satisfactory.

Twenty-four houses (population 52) and fifty-two caravans (population 103) are served by external standpipes. In all other dwelling houses the supply is taken indoors.

11. DRAINAGE.

Two hundred and fifteen visits were made to inspect and test new drains. Eighty-four visits were made to inspect and test old drains.

Only a small number of premises are not connected to the main sewerage system, less than forty being served by cesspool or septic tank, and three by pail closets.

The report of the Consultant Engineers on the Trade Effluent Survey was received. It showed that the discharge from the eleven premises concerned was taking up the equivalent of more than one-third of the capacity of the sewage disposal works. The Council is now considering the question of charges preparatory to negotiations with the traders concerned.

12. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Discussion took place at the Health Committee on the condition of the public conveniences. A report was submitted and in addition to the provision of new conveniences in the Old Market Car Park, improvements to other conveniences were authorised.

13. NUISANCES.

Among a number of nuisances dealt with was one caused by dust from a coal dump. The establishment and growth of the dump with the use of mechanical handling equipment led to complaints from the occupiers of nearby houses, especially during a period of dry weather.

The matter was considered by the Health Committee and the Local Planning Authority. Discussions took place with the occupiers of the site with regard to the surfacing of roads, the reduction in height of the heaps, the provision of water quenching and the planting of a screen of trees.

14. CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

Three notices were received of proposals to instal new furnaces to which the Clean Air Act, 1956, applies.

15. FACTORIES, SHOPS AND OFFICES.

The table on page twenty-eight shows the number of factories on the Council's register and details of the inspections made.

Notification was received during the year of four outworkers who were employed in their own homes making wearing apparel or nets. The notifications in the "August" list are indicated in the table on page thirty.

Radioactive Substances Act, 1960.

Notification was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government of the use of radioactive substances in experimental work at a farm and in treatment at a hospital. No hazard to public health was considered to exist.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

This Act came into force during 1964. Occupiers of shops and offices who employ labour were required to register the premises by the 31st August. The number and details of registrations are set out overleaf but it is apparent from these figures that a number of occupiers have failed to register.

Owing to staffing difficulties it was not possible to commence routine inspection of registered premises but it is hoped to make a start before the end of 1965.

Offices	59
Retail shops	105
Wholesale shops, warehouses	7
Catering establishment open to the public, canteens	14
Fuel storage depots	1
	186

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 - PART I.

FACTORIES ON THE COUNCIL'S REGISTER AND DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	15	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	87	4	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities (excluding outworkers' premises)	1	-	-	-
Total:	103	4	-	-

FACTORIES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act, (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 - PART VIII

(OUTWORK)

Nature of work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section IIO (I)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel: making etc., cleaning and washing	1	-	-	-	-	-
Nets other than wire nets	3	-	-	-	-	-
All other types of outwork	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	-	-	-	-	-

16. CARAVANS.

One residential site for thirty caravans and two individual residential sites were licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act. The licence conditions were based on the model standards prepared by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The Council prepared and brought into use a site for twenty residential and ten touring caravans.

17. RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's rodent control service was continued on the lines of the scheme approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. At the beginning of the year difficulties continued to be experienced in obtaining and retaining a suitable rodent operative but from June, 1964, this was overcome by the appointment of a part-time operative. No charge is made for the destruction by the Council of rats and mice except in the case of business premises. A summary of the work undertaken is shown in the table below. Test baiting and maintenance treatments of the sewers were undertaken as usual.

	Local Authority Premises	Dwelling Houses inc. L.A. Houses	All other premises inc. Trade Premises	Agri- culture	Total
Total number of properties	15	3,810	921	22	4,768
Number of properties inspected:					
(a) Notification	2	63	22	-	87
(b) Survey	5	111	40	5	161
(c) Otherwise	-	38	21	-	59
Number of properties found to be infested:					
(a) Rats	5	79	31	1	116
(b) Mice	-	5	3	-	8
Number of properties treated by L.A.	5	84	32	1	122

18. VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Thirty-four premises infested with pests were dealt with. Most of the premises were disinfested by the Department but in a small number of instances only advice was given. The pests included cockroaches, beetles, ants, flies, wasps and lice. In addition regular treatment of one of the slaughterhouses was undertaken to prevent any fly infestation. Information was submitted to the Department of Education and Science giving details of the pesticides used in the above work in response to investigations which were being made.

Two filthy premises were visited and advice given to obtain an improvement in the standard of household cleanliness.

Several discussions took place at the Health Committee on the nuisance caused by pigeons in the town. An approach was made to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food with regard to the possible use of a narcotic (alpha chloralose). The sites where such a narcotic could be used were very limited and it was decided to resume trapping of the birds, with moderate success.

19. RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Under the above Act five premises in which upholstery is undertaken are registered by the Council. Premises within the Borough are not used for the manufacture or storage of rag flock. No visits of inspection or sampling under this Act were made during the year.

20. SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964.

Six dealers in old metals are registered by the Council under the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. No visits of inspection were made during the year by your public health inspectors. The Council authorised a number of police officers to carry out inspections.

The Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964, repealed the above provisions and will come into operation in 1965. The dealers will have to register with the Council, but the enforcement of the Act will be undertaken by the police authority.

21. PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.

At the beginning of the year fifty-five licences were renewed in respect of existing petroleum installations.

Of twenty-three visits made under the Petroleum Acts, five were to licensed installations and eighteen to new or proposed installations.

22. PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Two shops were licensed by the Council under the above Act for the sale of pet animals.

It is hoped to deal with two establishments under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963, during the next year.

